**Mobile Dak Telephony Scheme**

3570. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Mobile Dak Telephony Scheme;

(b) the villages that would be covered, State-wise, and the incentives that would be given to the postmen to make it popular;

(c) whether this would have STD facility also; and

(d) the estimated earnings per annum, thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) A pilot scheme has been launched on 24.12.2002 through Grameen Dak Sewak Delivery Agents (GDSDAs) of the Department of Posts (DoP) called "Grameen Sanchar Sewak (GSS)" who were willing to work as franchisee of BSNL. The telephone facility has been provided to the villages through the GSS who carry a Mobile Fixed Wireless Terminal (FWT) with display unit facility in a carry bag and visits door-to-door to provide telephone facility to the rural population in his routine beat in the villages.

(b) 8191 villages are being covered by 1860 GSSs throughout the country. Circle-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below). The GSS is entitled to 20% commission on all outgoing calls. The GSS can charge Rs. 5/- for passing on message to the concerned person in the village.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Estimated earnings per annum is about Rs. 1.1 crores.

***Statement***

*No. of GSS and villages being covered*

| Sl.No. | Circle | No. of GSS | No. of villages being covered |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 52 | 142 |
| 2. | Assam | 41 | 310 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3. | Bihar | 440 | 1309 |
| 4. | Jharkhand | 83 | 613 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 56 | 122 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 24 | 121 |
| 7. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6 | 29 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 57 | 199 |
| 9. | Kerala | 87 | 48 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 72 | 433 |
| 11. | Chhattisgarh | 113 | 478 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 71 | 170 |
| 13. | North East-I | 21 | 95 |
| 14. | North East-II | 11 | 61 |
| 15. | Orissa | 177 | 925 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 38 | 132 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 40 | 234 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh (E) | 181 | 1056 |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh (W) | 80 | 417 |
| 20. | Uttaranchal | 85 | 493 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 125 | 804 |
| | TOTAL: | 1860 | 8191 |

**Functioning of Telephone Advisory Committees**

3571. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the powers, responsibilities and functioning of the Telephone Advisory Committee Members;